

Notice of Exemption

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To:

Office of Planning and Research
 For U.S. Mail:
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Region 1 - Northern
 601 Locust St
 Redding, CA 96001

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Scott River Tailings "Oasis" Restoration Project (Request No. 2022-EPIMS-SIS-32049-R1)

Project Applicant: Betsy Stapleton, Scott River Watershed Council

Project Location (include county): The Project extends from River KM 85-85.3 of the Scott River in the Yuba Dredge tailings. The Project is approximately 5.5 km from the southern (upstream) extent of the tailings. The project area is between the Scott-Sugar Creek and Scott-French Creek Confluences and is approximately 12 km south of the town of Etna, in Siskiyou County. The Project coordinates are: 41.364699° N, 122.825209° W (downstream extent).

Project Description: Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has issued a Streambed Alteration Agreement the Scott River Tailings "Oasis" Restoration Project submitted by the Scott River Watershed Council.

The purpose of the project is to improve instream and floodplain conditions for anadromous salmonids, specifically Southern Oregon North Coast Coho salmon (SONCC), as well as other aquatic species along a 0.37 kilometer reach of the Scott River dominated by Yuba Dredge tailings. The tailings have created inhospitable conditions for natural recruitment of vegetation, and this portion of the river ceases to flow in the late summer, which is when construction shall occur.

To enhance habitat for this stretch of the river, this project will install up to 20 instream engineered log jams, 40 floodplain log structures, and plant native riparian vegetation in multiple areas along the bank. The total project area is under 5 acres.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Betsy Stapleton, Scott River Watershed Council, P.O. Box 355, Etna CA 96027

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 33 consists of small projects not to exceed 5 acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

CDFW Contact Person: Philip Cramer, Environmental Scientist, (707) 499-3369

DocuSigned by:

 Signature: _____ Date: 9/23/2022
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Curt Babcock
 Environmental Program Manager
 Region 1 (Northern Region)

Date received for filing at OPR: _____